



# Committee on Homeland Security

**Democrats**

**Bennie G. Thompson, Ranking  
Member**

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## **DEMOCRATS MOVE TO HARNESS INTELLIGENCE WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY**

**April 27, 2005, Washington, DC** — Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez (D-CA), Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Economic Security, Infrastructure Protection, and Cybersecurity, made the following statement during the open markup session today to consider the Department of Homeland Security Authorization Act for fiscal year 2006:

**“Many on this Committee, on both sides of the aisle, have expressed frustration by the lack of progress in completing these assessments and plans which are so vital to the security of this nation. Our frustration is understandable when we see missed deadlines, and ad-hoc lists of critical assets. Every day the Department continues to delay in completing these requirements, is another day our nation is left unprepared.”**

The amendment introduced by Sanchez and Rep. Jane Harman (D-CA), ensure that the identification, assessment and prioritization of critical infrastructure assets and vulnerabilities are based on threat information received and analyzed by the Office of Information Analysis. The amendment also will require the Department to develop a plan to secure our nation’s critical infrastructure.

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